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OMB No. 1545-1150

2012

Open to Public Inspection

Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code
(except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

Form **990-EZ**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds, organizations that operate one or more hospital facilities, and certain controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990 (see instructions). All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000 at the end of the year may use this form.
▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

A For the 2012 calendar year, or tax year beginning 2012, and ending 20

B Check if applicable: <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	C Name of organization FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE	D Employer identification number 36-3869747
	Number & street (or P.O. box, if mail is not delivered to street addr.) Room/suite 8801 WEDGEWOOD DR.	E Telephone number (630) 654-0239
	City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4 Burr Ridge IL 60527	F Group Exemption Number ▶

G Accounting Method: Cash Accrual Other (specify) ▶ _____ **H** Check if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

I Website: ▶ N/A

J Tax-exempt status (check only one) -- 501(c)(3) 501(c) () (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527

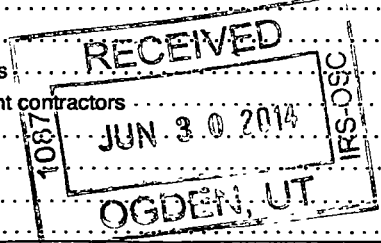
K Check if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization or a section 527 organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$50,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required though Form 990-N (e-postcard) may be required (see instructions). But if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, line 25, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ ▶ \$ 2,962

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	
2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	
3	Membership dues and assessments	3	
4	Investment income	4	2,962
5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	
6	Gaming and fundraising events		
a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	
b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b	
c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c	
d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a	
b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b	
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8	
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	2,962
10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	5,000
11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	
12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	
13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	361
14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	
15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	
16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	
17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17	5,361
18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	-2,399
19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	196,434
20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	24,726
21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20	21	218,761



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Part II Balance Sheets (see the instructions for Part II)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II

Table with 3 columns: Description, (A) Beginning of year, (B) End of year. Rows include Cash, savings, and investments; Land and buildings; Other assets; Total assets; Total liabilities; Net assets or fund balances.

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see the instructions for Part III)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III

Expenses (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts; optional for others.)

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? See attachment #1. Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses.

Table for program service accomplishments with columns for description, amount, and foreign grants. Rows 28-31 describe various services and their expenses.

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees List each one even if not compensated. (see the instructions for Part IV)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV

Table with 5 columns: (a) Name and title, (b) Average hours per week devoted to position, (c) Reportable compensation, (d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, & deferred compensation, (e) Estimated amount of other compensation.

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the

instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

33 Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O.
34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name.
35a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?
35b If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O
35c Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year?
36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year?
37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions
37b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?
38a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?
38b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:
39a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9
39b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities
40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911; section 4912; section 4955
40b Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ?
40c Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958
40d Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization
40e All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed
42a The organization's books are in care of
42b At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?
42c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U.S.?
43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 -- Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year
44a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year?
44b Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year?
44c Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?
44d If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments?
45a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?
45b Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?

46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I Yes No
46 X

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II Yes No
47 X

48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E Yes No
48 X

49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? Yes No
49a X

b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization? Yes No
49b X

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and title of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
NONE				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 ▶

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 ▶

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note:** All section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A ▶ Yes No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here Signature of officer Date
 ERIN FICHTELBERG PRESIDENT
 Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer Use Only Print/Type preparer's name Preparer's signature Date Check if self-employed PTIN
 Jerry Spangler P00405835
 Firm's name ▶ HRB TAX GROUP INC Firm's EIN ▶ 431871840
 Firm's address ▶ MARKET MEADOWS SHOP CTR Phone no. 630-548-3912

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions ▶ Yes No

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support
Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

Name of the organization: **FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE** Employer identification number: **36-3869747**

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box.)

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).
- 2 A school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii). (Attach Schedule E.)
- 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).
- 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii). Enter the hospital's name, city, and state: _____
- 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv). (Complete Part II.)
- 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).
- 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi). (Complete Part II.)
- 8 A community trust described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi). (Complete Part II.)
- 9 An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions--subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See section 509(a)(2). (Complete Part III.)
- 10 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See section 509(a)(4).
- 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2). See section 509(a)(3). Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h.
 - a Type I
 - b Type II
 - c Type III--Functionally integrated
 - d Type III--Non-functionally integrated
- e By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2).
- f If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box
- g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?
 - (i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization?
 - (ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above?
 - (iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?

	Yes	No
11g(i)		X
11g(ii)		X
11g(iii)		X

h Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1-9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col. (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col. (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col. (i) organized in the U.S.?		(vii) Amount of monetary support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Total									

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990 or 990-EZ.

Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2012

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")		2,000	8,000	5,200	5,000	20,200
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3		2,000	8,000	5,200	5,000	20,200
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f).						
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4.						20,200

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4		2,000	8,000	5,200	5,000	20,200
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						20,200
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc (see instructions)					12	
13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2012 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)).	14	100.00 %
15 Public support percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	%
16a 33 1/3% support test -- 2012. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
b 33 1/3% support test -- 2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>		
17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test -- 2012. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>		
b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test -- 2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>		
18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>		

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2012

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization

FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE

Employer identification number

36-3869747

Page 1 Line 10-Grants - The foundation provide a grant to help the school
provide an enhanced after school program

990 PRIMARY EXEMPT PURPOSE

Attachment 1: page 1 - 990-EZ Page 2, Part III

Open to Public Inspection	For calendar year 2012 or tax period beginning	, and ending
Name of Organization FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE	Employer Identification Number 36-3869747	

Primary Purpose

PROVIDE GRANTS TO COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 180 TO ENHANCE STUDENTS EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

990 PROGRAM SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENT

Attachment 2: page 1 - 990-EZ Page 3, Part III

Open to Public Inspection	For calendar year 2012 or tax period beginning	, and ending
Name of Organization	Employer Identification Number	
FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE	36-3869747	

Part III - Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Grants and allocations	Amount includes foreign grants	Program service expenses
Exempt Purpose Achievements		

The grants were made to the Community School District 180 for the enhancement of the after school program for better programs.

990 BOOKS ARE IN CARE OF

Attachment 3 - 990-EZ Page 3, Part V, Line 42a

Open to Public Inspection	For calendar year 2012 or tax period beginning	, and ending
Name of Organization FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE		Employer Identification Number 36-3869747

Part V - Line 42a

Individual Name ERIN SMITS FICHTELBERG
 or
 Business Name:

Street Address 8801 WEDGEWOOD DRIVE

U.S. Address:

Zip code 60527 City Burr Ridge State IL
 or

Foreign Address

City

Province or State

Country

Postal code

Phone Number (630) 654-0239

Fax Number

2012 DETAIL STATEMENTS

FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE
36-3869747

STATEMENT #1 - Investment Income (990-EZ PG 1 Line 4)

INTEREST INCOME.....	859
DIVIDENDS.....	1,053
QUALIFIED DIVIDENDS 3139.....	1,050

TOTAL CARRIED TO 990-EZ PG 1 Line 4..... 2,962

STATEMENT #2 - Grants and similar amts paid (990-EZ PG 1 Line 10)

Grant for enhancement of the after school..... program for District 180 schools	5,000
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TOTAL CARRIED TO 990-EZ PG 1 Line 10..... 5,000

STATEMENT #3 - Professional Fees (990-EZ PG 1 Line 13)

HRBlock Tax preparation fee.....	345
Illinois Charitable Organization Filing.....	16

TOTAL CARRIED TO 990-EZ PG 1 Line 13..... 361

STATEMENT #4 - End of Year - Cash (990-EZ PG 1 Line 22)

Money Market account value.....	218,761
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TOTAL CARRIED TO 990-EZ PG 1 Line 22..... 218,761

STATEMENT #5 - Gifts, grants, etc. (SCH A, PG 2 Line 1(e))

Playground improvements.....	5,000
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TOTAL CARRIED TO SCH A, PG 2 Line 1(e)..... 5,000

STATEMENT #6 - Assets included (SCH D, PG 1 Line 2b)

Unrealized market appreciation of assets.....	24,726
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TOTAL CARRIED TO SCH D, PG 1 Line 2b..... 24,726
